

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1. (Canceled)

Claim 2. (Currently amended) ~~The process of claim 1~~ A process for the production of a homologous or heterologous protein, comprising:

culturing a *Zygosaccharomyces bailii* strain transformed with an expression vector comprising a gene coding for the protein, and

recovering the protein, wherein the expression vector comprises an Autonomously Replicating Sequence (ARS) sequence from *S. cerevisiae*, a CEN (centromeric) sequence from *Z. bailii* or *S. cerevisiae*, the gene coding for the protein, a promoter controlling the expression of the gene, and a marker.

Claim 3. (Previously presented) The process of claim 2, wherein the ARS sequence is the ARS1 sequence.

Claim 4. (Previously presented) The process of claim 2, wherein the centromeric sequence is CEN4 from *S. cerevisiae*.

Claim 5. (Canceled)

Claim 6. (Previously presented) The process of claim 2, wherein the marker is the gene for resistance to geneticin.

Claim 7. (Previously presented) The process of claim 2, wherein the promoter is alcohol dehydrogenase 1 promoter (ADH1) and/or a galactose operon 1-10/iso-1-cytochrome c hybrid promoter (GAL₁₋₁₀/CYC1) from *S. cerevisiae*.

Claims 8-10. (Canceled)